

REMARKS

Applicant has studied the Office Action dated March 6, 2008. Claims 4-39 are pending. No amendments to the claims are currently submitted. Claims 4, 8, 12, 16, 20, 23, 25, and 33 are independent claims.

It is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and reexamination are respectfully requested.

Claim for Foreign Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

It is respectfully noted that in the Office action of March 6, 2008, the Examiner has not acknowledged the Applicant's claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119. It is respectfully submitted that the present application is a continuation of prior application No. 09/484,169 filed on January 18, 2000, now U.S. Patent No. 6,804,202 B1 issued on October 12, 2004, which is a continuation of prior application No. 09/439,612, filed on November 12, 1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,788,652 B1 issued on September 7, 2004, as indicated in the preliminary amendment filed on September 8, 2003.

Furthermore, the present application claims the benefit of Korean Application No. 12255/1999 filed on April 8, 1999, as acknowledged by the USPTO in the Filing Receipt dated December 1, 2003. In addition, a certified copy of the priority document, Korean Application No. 12255/1999 filed on April 8, 1999, was forwarded to the USPTO on November 12, 1999 in connection with application No. 09/439,612, filed on November 12, 1999.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner acknowledge Applicant's claims for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 and receipt of the certified copy of the foreign priority document in the next Office communication.

§ 102 Rejections

Claims 4-39 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Johansson (U.S. Patent No. 6,947,394 B1). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

It is respectfully noted that the earliest possible reference date of Johansson is April 9, 1999, which is a filing date of provisional application 60/128,663 to which Johansson claims priority. However, it is respectfully submitted that the present application claims priority to Korean Application No. 12255/1999 filed on April 8, 1999. Therefore, it is further respectfully

submitted that the effective date of Johansson fails to antedate the priority date of the present application, and thus, cannot be cited as a reference to anticipate claims 4-39. An English translation of Korean Application No. 12255/1999 filed on April 8, 1999 and a statement that the English translation is accurate are enclosed herewith.

Therefore, it is respectfully asserted that independent claims 4-39 are allowable over the cited reference.

CONCLUSION

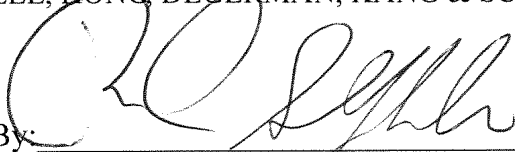
In view of the above remarks, Applicant submits that claims 4-39 of the present application are in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as originally filed, are requested.

No amendment made was related to the statutory requirements of patentability unless expressly stated herein; and no amendment made was for the purpose of narrowing the scope of any claim, unless Applicant has argued herein that such amendment was made to distinguish over a particular reference or combination of references.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles, California telephone number (213) 623-2221 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

LEE, HONG, DEGERMAN, KANG & SCHMADEKA

By: 

Richard C. Salfelder
Registration No. 51,127
Attorney for Applicant

Date: June 5, 2008

Customer No. 035884

Enclosure: English translation of Korean Application No. 12255/1999 filed on April 8, 1999